

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 EB-08 AID-05

/100 W

-----080709Z 068002 /17

R 071536Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5144

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0616

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RH ZA

SUBJ: SITHOLE SUPPORT AMONG ZANU FIGHTING FORCES

REF: LUSAKA 0525 AND 0537

1. BEFORE LEAVING LUSAKA FOR HIS NEW POST IN DAR,
THE ZAIROIS AMBASSADOR RECOUNTED THE FOLLOWING STORY
TO THE EMBASSY. HE SAID HE HAD LEARNED THAT KAUNDA
AND MACHEL HAD TRIED TO CONVOKE THE ZANLA MILITARY
LEADERS AT LUANGWA NATIONAL PARK WHERE THEY MET AT
THE END OF FEBRUARY (REFTELS). AT FIRST THE MEETING WAS TO BE
HELD AT TETE IN MOZAMBIQUE BUT IT WAS LATER MOVED TO LUANGWA.
ZAMBIA SENT A DELEGATE FOR A PRELIMINARY MEETING AT TETE.
THERE HE TOLD THE MILITARY LEADERS THAT THE OAU HAD DECIDED
TO SUPPORT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS MUGABE AND NKOMO AND
THEREFORE THE ZANLA FORCES WERE EXPECTED TO CONFORM TO THIS
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DECISION AND SUPPORT THE PF. OTHER VISITORS, HOWEVER, DENIED
THIS REPORT. THE MILITARY LEADERS THEMSELVES AFTER CAUCUSING
INFORMED THE ZAMBIAN REP THAT THEY WOULD ONLY AGREE TO BE
REPRESENTED AT LUANGWA BY THEIR POLITICAL LEADER WHOM THEY STILL
RECOGNIZE TO BE REV. SITHOLE. AS A RESULT NONE OF THEM WENT
TO LUANGWA.

2. COMMENT: IT IS HARD TO KNOW WHAT CREDENCE TO PUT ON THIS REPORT. AMB. NYARENDE HAS BEEN SIX YEARS IN LUSAKA AND KNOWS THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WELL. HE CLAIMS TO HAVE GOTTEN HIS REPORT FROM SOMEONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE TETE MEETING. HE HAS, HOWEVER, LONG BEEN A SITHOLE SUPPORTER AND THEREFORE THE EMBASSY IS INCLINED TO TREAT THE REPORT WITH SOME SKEPTICISM. WHAT IT MAY INDICATE, HOWEVER, IS THAT SUPPORT FOR MUGABE AMONG THE ZANLA FIGHTING FORCES IS STILL TENUOUS. SOME OF THE LEADERS MAY BE USING SITHOLE AGAINST MUGABE, BUT EVEN SO, SITHOLE DOES APPEAR TO RETAIN SOME FOLLOWING. LOW

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770386/aaaacydy.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 045381bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PFOR, RH, ZA, ZANU, (SITHOLE, NDABANANGI), (MUGABE, ROBERT)
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